GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2104
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2001
SMUGGLING OF OZONE DEPLETING SUBSTANCES
NEDURUMALLI JANARDHANA REDDY

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned `Concern over smuggling of Ozone depleting substances` appearing in the Hindu dated October 16, 2001 ;

(b) if so, whether illegal business in Ozone depleting substances into India from neighbouring countries have undermined India`s efforts in phasing out its own production of these harmful chemicals; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check illegal business in Ozone depleting substances ?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU)

(a), (b) & (c) Environmental Investigation Agency, a non governmental organisation has reported smuggling of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) into India.There has been no impact on production phaseout of Ozone Depleting Substances. All the field formations under the Customs Department including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence are vigilant and alert to thwart any attempts of smuggling of Ozone Depleting Substances.